



## Department of the Interior Recovery Investments *Investing in America's Economic Recovery*

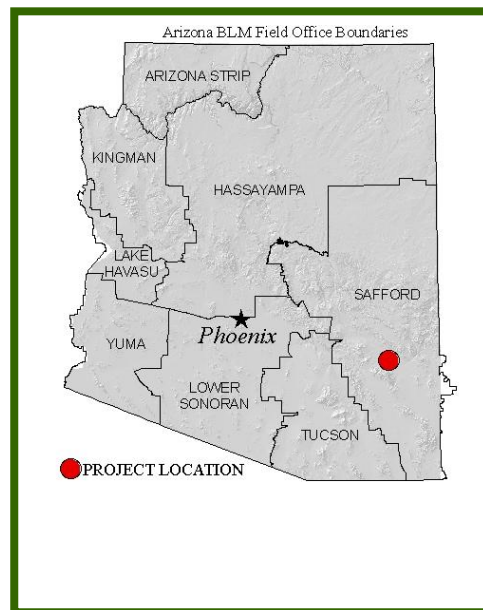


### Sky Islands and Desert Seas Restoration, Phase I

#### Need

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Sky Islands and Desert Seas Restoration (Phase I) project consists of repairs to three major erosion-control structures – Oso Largo, Goat Well, and Red Knolls – and approximately 20 miles of fence (new and repairs) including wildlife enclosures, the San Simon River riparian fence, and fences that protect critical erosion-control structures and habitat. The project will also include more than 100 acres of vegetation treatments (tamarisk, Russian knapweed, mesquite, et al.) and nonnative/invasive eradications.

The initial construction is estimated to begin by May 2010, and will take six to eight months to complete.



#### Recovery Act Funding

Information about the funding allocated for this BLM-Arizona American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project will be released after the contracts have been awarded.

#### Benefits

Repairs to the erosion-control structures are needed to minimize the possibility of catastrophic dam failures that would result in increased sedimentation and major habitat and resource damage to the Gila Watershed. Vegetation treatments will help control invasive species, resulting in the restoration of native vegetation that enhances rangelands used for grazing and wildlife habitat that is important to many species. The project will be completed by a combination of three construction contracts and three service contracts. These will provide employment opportunities to qualified contractors. Restoration of the San Simon watershed is a priority for the Gila Watershed Partnership, a grassroots organization that has garnered wide community support.



#### More Information

For more information about this BLM ARRA project, contact Ron Peru, Civil Engineering Technician, at 928-348-4439 or [ron\\_peru@blm.gov](mailto:ron_peru@blm.gov); or the BLM-Arizona ARRA Coordinator, at 602-417-9576.